

NCUC INREACH COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF MEETING OF 30 MARCH 2013 20:00 UTC VIA SKYPE

In attendance: Edward Morris (UK), Amr Elsadar (Norway)

1. Brief discussion about two roles delegated to the InReach Committee by the NCUC Chair: 1) maintenance of the membership list and 2) administrative acceptance of new members.

2. Recognition that capacity building for new members is severely lacking. It was noted that Outreach efforts need to include better integration with the Fellowship program.

Programmatic suggestions offered to expand capacity building for new members:

- Mentoring program: It was noted that one on one help granted meeting attendees by senior NCUC members was essential to their development and progression within the ICANN ecosphere. Although ideal, particularly for policy orientation, mentoring is highly resource intensive (labor) and is not thought to be scalable.
- Webinars: Suggestions have previously been made by senior N.C.U.C. members that biannual webinars targeted to new members would be useful. While acknowledging the positive value of webinars, it was felt they might be more valuable if used to update more experienced active members on policy development than to integrate new members into the NCUC.
- Structured Online Capacity Building: Ideally the Constituency would develop a structured online training program for new members. It was suggested efforts be made to explore a partnership with NCUC member DiploFoundation in such an effort.

Although initial development would require an extensive commitment, ongoing maintenance would be manageable and the benefit to the Constituency great. The aging of the more active members of the Constituency was noted; the need to tap their knowledge and experience in this type of project, prior to their retirement, was deemed important.

3. It was posited that the biggest problem facing the Constituency is the inactivity of a large number of our members. NCSG Chair Robin Gross recently posted that 90% of SG members are inactive. There is no reason to believe there is any great difference in the participation rate at the Constituency level.

It was agreed that nonparticipation is a complex issue that needs to be studied in a comprehensive methodological manner. It was agreed that a study group would be formed to develop a research plan, including the construction of a set of questions for NCUC

members, with the goal of initial implementation in the 3rd quarter of 2013. It was recognized that this would be a time consuming task but thought to be essential in helping the Constituency fully achieve it's goal as the legitimate representative of noncommercial interests in ICANN.

4. The positioning of the NCUC Policy Committee, currently inactive, as a larger, more inclusive group was discussed. Rather than replicate the SG PC at a lower level, thought was given to forming a more inclusive grouping open to all (particularly new members) that would have the freedom to spend more time developing and proposing policy (as opposed to reacting to initiatives of others) and act as a funnel to working groups and other policy organs throughout ICANN. Amongst the virtues of the concept would be the ability of the InReach Committee to direct new members to a part of the NCUC where they could immediately participate in policy development in a welcoming, defined arena.

4. The need for Committee growth was noted. It is anticipated that the next Committee meeting will be schedule for the week of April 22nd, with feedback from the Beijing ICANN meeting incorporated into the agenda.